

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims as follows.

1-7. (canceled)

8. (original) A method of manufacturing a surface treated steel material comprising performing chemical conversion treatment on a steel material using a chemical conversion treatment liquid containing zinc and phosphoric acid or manganese and phosphoric acid and further containing potassium.

9. (original) A method of manufacturing a surface treated steel material as claimed in claim 8 wherein the chemical conversion treatment liquid has a molar concentration of potassium-containing ions of at least $6 \times 10^{-4}\%$ and at most $7 \times 10^{-1}\%$.

10. (original) A method of manufacturing a surface treated steel material as claimed in claim 8 wherein chemical conversion treatment is carried out by immersing the surface of the steel material in the chemical conversion treatment liquid at a temperature of 60 - 100°C for at least five minutes.

11. (original) A method of manufacturing a surface treated steel material as claimed in claim 8 wherein the chemical conversion treatment is carried out by supplying the chemical conversion treatment to the surface of the steel material at a temperature of 60 - 100°C for at least five minutes.

12. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a surface treated steel material as claimed in ~~any one of claims 8 - 11~~ claim 8 wherein the chemical conversion treatment is carried out in the absence of fluoride ions.

13. (original) A chemical conversion treatment liquid for a steel material containing zinc and phosphoric acid or manganese and phosphoric acid and further containing potassium.

14. (original) A chemical conversion treatment liquid for a steel material as claimed in claim 13 which has a molar concentration of potassium-containing ions of at least $6 \times 10^{-4}\%$ and at most $7 \times 10^{-1}\%$.

15. (currently amended) A chemical conversion treatment liquid for a steel material as claimed in claim 13 [[or 14]] wherein it contains manganese and phosphoric acid and further contains potassium, and wherein the total acid number is at least 30 and less than 55 and the ratio of the total acid number to the free acid number is 3 – 15.

16. (new) A method of manufacturing a surface treated steel material as claimed in claim 9 wherein the chemical conversion treatment is carried out in the absence of fluoride ions.

17. (new) A method of manufacturing a surface treated steel material as claimed in claim 10 wherein the chemical conversion treatment is carried out in the absence of fluoride ions.

18. (new) A method of manufacturing a surface treated steel material as claimed in claim 11 wherein the chemical conversion treatment is carried out in the absence of fluoride ions.

19. (new) A chemical conversion treatment liquid for a steel material as claimed in claim 14 wherein it contains manganese and phosphoric acid and further contains potassium, and wherein the total acid number is at least 30 and less than 55 and the ratio of the total acid number to the free acid number is 3 – 15.